

Remarks

Claims 1-26, 28-30, 32, 34-35, 38-54, and 56-84 are pending in the application. Claims 27, 31, 33, 36-37, and 55 were earlier canceled. Claims 1, 38-40, 42, 50-54, 56, 57, and 78 have been amended. New claims 79-84 have been added. No new matter has been added by virtue of this amendment. Reconsideration of the application as amended is requested.

Claim Rejections--35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph

The Examiner states that "claims 1-26, 28-30, 32, 34-35, 38-54, and 56-77 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claims have been amended to remove the terms that the Examiner regards as new matter. Therefore the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph has been traversed.

Prior Art

As amended, the claims are distinguished from the teachings and suggestions of Agre. Agre teaches that each of his sensing units derives all of its power from an onboard power supply. There is no teaching or suggestion in Agre of power being obtained externally. Nor does Agre teach or suggest that power for powering a sensing unit is derived from a control unit, as provided in claims 1, 39, and 81, and claims dependent thereon. In fact, Agre teaches against control or data processing occurring at a central location. He states, "If control or data processing occurs at a central location, then the entire network is vulnerable to failure of the central processor. Such an architecture has low reliability and cannot easily survive in a hostile environment" (column 1, lines 55-58). Powering from such a control unit would pose the same problem as control or data processing at a control unit.

Nor does Agre teach or suggest that "each addressable sensing unit of said network of addressable sensing units has an individual address, wherein said control unit is capable of transmitting address information to communicate with an individual addressable sensing unit based on said individual address," as provided in claim 40. Claim 50 has a similar limit. Agre's teaching against control or data processing occurring at a central location is directly contrary to this idea. In addition, while Agre provides for I/O addressing (column 10, lines 1-4) within a node, Agre teaches against network addressing by providing that "multiple nodes may use the same channel simultaneously" (column 4, lines 1-2) and by providing the alternative technique of transmission in time slots (column 10, lines 10-11).

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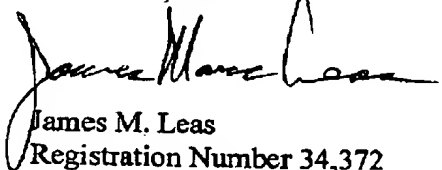
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Nor does Agre teach or suggest mounting a sensing unit to a subject for sensing a parameter related to that subject, as provided in claims 79-80. In Agre the sensing units are distributed randomly, such as by dropping from an aircraft or a ship or placed manually (column 2, lines 48-51). Agre's purpose is to detect an intruder in a region or a condition to be monitored over a wide area (abstract and column 2, lines 32-35). In Agre one use of the sensors is to detect the intrusion of vehicles or personnel. The sensors are distributed in the environment for this purpose. They would not be mounted to the intruder vehicles or personnel if the point is to detect the intruder vehicles or personnel. Thus, there is no teaching or suggestion in Agre of mounting the sensing units to a structure or to a living thing.

New claim 79 describes FIG. 1b and FIG. 3 in which the signal generator, power amplifier and transmitter coil are separate from the second receiving device, the second transmitting device, and the second data storage device, also shown in FIG. 1b. This is described in the specification on page 14 in the paragraph starting on line 10.

Consideration of the application as amended is requested. Applicant respectfully requests favorable reconsideration. If there are any questions please call applicant's attorney at 802 864-1575.

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